Turfgrass blends. For some golf course superintendents, they are the answer to the question as to the best turfgrass to buy. For others, they are a whiff of the siren for the fickle, for the uncertain. Cato and Crenshaw equal CNC. Cato is not. Mixing the two results in an excellent blend.

Continued from previous page

...that is the easiest disease to control. I'm interested in less spike marks, more upright growth — that sort of thing." Indeed, Lofts research director Dr. Rich Hurley said: "We'd actually like a three-way blend: L-93, Crenshaw and Southshore. Crenshaw-Southshore has been popular.

Dr. Milt Engelke of Texas A&M University added that superintendents can take advantage of some of the aggressive new grasses "that tend to thatch but have good disease resistance," Hurley said. "But they are bred that way to tolerate a lower height of cut. Better density also means better wear tolerance."

The next generations of bentgrasses "that tend to thatch but have terrific characteristics lacking in your favored turf. For instance, Crenshaw is susceptible to dollar spot. Cato is not. Mixing the two results in an excellent blend." For Cato and Crenshaw equal CNC. Cato is not. Mixing the two results in an excellent blend.

By MARK LESLIE

The following are conditions at the sites of the bentgrass national tests, including, in order, location, soil texture, pH, nitrogen applied (in pounds per 1,000 square feet), mowing height (in inches) and irrigation practiced:

AZ1 — Tucson, Ariz., sand, 7.6-8.5, 3.1-4.0, 0.15-0.25, to prevent stress.

CO1 — Fort Collins, Colo., silt loam, 7.6-8.5, 4.1-5.0, 0.15-0.25, to prevent stress.

GA1 — Griffin, Ga. (low soil pH), sandy clay loam, 5.6-6.0, 2.1-3.0, 0.05-0.25, to prevent stress.

GA2 — Griffin, Ga. (low soil pH), sandy clay loam, 6.6-7.5, 4.1-5.0, 0.15-0.25, to prevent stress.

IL1 — Ames, Iowa, loamy sand, 7.1-7.5, 3.1-4.0, 0.15-0.25, to prevent stress.

IL2 — Carbondale, Ill., silty clay loam, 6.1-6.5, 2.1-3.0, 0.05-0.25, to prevent stress.

KS1 — Manhattan, Kan., sand, 6.6-7.5, 3.1-4.0, 0.15-0.25, to prevent stress.

MO2 — Columbia, Mo. (no traffic), silt loam and silt, 6.1-6.5, 1.1-2.0, 0.15-0.25, to prevent stress.

MO1 — Columbia (traffic), Mo., sand, 7.1-7.5, 5.1-6.0, 0.15-0.25, to prevent stress.

NJ1 — North Brunswick, N.J., sandy loam, 6.1-6.5, 4.1-5.0, 0.15-0.25, to prevent stress.

OK1 — Stillwater, Okla., sandy loam, 5.6-6.0, 5.1-6.0, 0.15-0.25, to prevent stress.

PA1 — University Park, Pa., loamy sand, 6.6-7.5, 2.1-3.0, 0.05-0.25, to prevent stress.

RI1 — Kingston, R.I., sand, 6.1-6.5, 4.1-5.0, 0.15-0.25, to prevent stress.

SC1 — Florence, S.C., sandy loam, 6.1-6.5, 5.1-6.0, 0.15-0.25, to prevent stress.

TX1 — Dallas, Texas, loamy sand, 6.1-6.5, 7.1-8.0, 0.15-0.25, to prevent stress.

WA1 — Pullman, Wash., silty clay loam, 5-6.0, 5.6-6.0, 0.15-0.25, to prevent stress.

WA3 — Pullman, Wash., silty loam, 5.6-6.0, 5.6-6.0, 0.15-0.25, to prevent stress.

WA4 — Pullman, Wash., silty loam, 5.6-6.0, 5.6-6.0, 0.15-0.25, to prevent stress.

W2 — Wadesboro, Ill., sand, 6.5-7.0, 5.6-6.0, 0.15-0.25, to prevent stress.